

strange indeed. A teacher I feared and fretted about giving me a promotion, based on speculation. No one had ever done this for me. I had had plenty of good teachers. I liked plenty of them, and they liked me. But no one had ever gone out on a limb on my behalf.

Then something even more wonderful happened. If Mrs. Musick thought I could do it and she believed in me, maybe I could do it and maybe I could believe in myself also.

Mr. Speaker, this inspiration given to me by a schoolteacher over 25 years ago always has stuck with me. I transferred to the new class and got to work. I doubled my efforts, my enthusiasm for learning. I did not want to let the other kids know I did not really fit in, and I sure did not want to let Mrs. Musick down.

During the Christmas holiday, I worked on my term paper for the winter quarter. I read "For Whom the Bell Tolls", "Thanatopsis", "Tess of the D'Urbervilles", "Red Badge of Courage", "The Last Leaf". I ended up the year making A and B's, mostly B's, but B's never felt so good. But above all, I was in the advanced class in everything else, algebra, science and history.

What else can I say about the woman who made this possible? She was strict but she was clear. She gave us the rules. We understood them and we followed them, and we if we did not, punishment was sure and swift. There was no pink slip, no parent-teacher conference or gray area. Fairness and certainty were her trademarks in discipline.

On her subject matter, she was passionate. No sentence has been constructed that she could not diagram. Infinitives did not get split and participles did not get dangled on her watch. In fact, I am still a little afraid now, if she is watching, she will catch all my mistakes.

On literature there was none so devoted. One day it snowed, and in Athens, Georgia a snow day to students was worshipped like manna from heaven. No school. While all of the students rushed to the hills for sledding, Mrs. Musick later confessed she could not wait to get back to a good book or two, and with good reason.

She was intimately acquainted with Fitzgerald, Thoreau, Emerson, Huxley, Whitman, Oliver Wendell Holmes and company. She was their peer and they were her friends. Once Lewis Nix suggested Hemingway partied too much in Key West. Mrs. Musick neither confirmed nor denied this but took us all to a higher plane with her admonishment, "Do not talk about one of America's greatest authors in such fashion. He went through a lot in the war." A classy way to handle such a statement. Her love of literature was contagious and many Clark Central students left with reading as a lifetime hobby.

I will close with this. I still do not know what Thanatopsis means, but I do know what the poem was about. I traveled with Hemingway to Mount

Kilmanjaro, spent some time with Thoreau at Walden Pond, dined with Fitzgerald and Gatsby at West Egg and wept with Oliver Wendell Holmes on the Gettysburg battleground. As they have become immortal, so has Mrs. Musick.

How many students like me left her class with a lifetime habit of reading and yearning for knowledge or even an appreciation of grammar? Our lives live on in the influence that we have on others, and Mrs. Musick's legacy is indelibly etched on thousands of Athens, Georgia kids. I am blessed to have had her and forever better for the experience. I am sorry for those who did not.

I started out, Mr. Speaker, saying there were two significant things that happened in Athens, GA. One, Mrs. Musick retired. The other, Jack Kingston graduated. After 12 years of study, I walked down the aisle with my diploma, a product of lots of classroom hours and homework and wonderful teachers like Mrs. Bertha Musick.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOB SCHAEFFER of Colorado). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. EDWARDS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. EDWARDS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. CLAYTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. HEFNER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HEFNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. ETHERIDGE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. ETHERIDGE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

ON SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California [Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress representing parts of Los Angeles, I am acutely aware of the devastating impact natural disasters have on human life. The Northridge earthquake, for example, not only destroyed homes and parts of communities but lives and people's livelihood.

In response, Congress acted to ease the misery of these victims by quickly appropriating much-needed disaster assistance. By so doing, Congress sent a clear message to these victims that they were not being abandoned by their government and we gave them hope that they would be able to rebuild their lives. Congressional response to the Northridge earthquake represented the Federal Government at its best.

Today, 83 days after the President asked Congress to pass legislation providing desperately needed funds for families suffering the aftermath of the recent floods, these victims are still waiting for Congress to help them in their time of need. Their cries for help fall on the deaf ears of the Republican majority who insist on using the disaster relief bill as a vehicle to ram through an unrelated political agenda which the President has said over and over again is unacceptable.

Despite the President's warning of a veto, the Republican majority put their interests ahead of the interests of the flood victims and included unrelated provisions, knowing the bill would be vetoed. These Republican machinations represent government at its worst. Yes, the issues of the continuing resolution and the census should be considered by this House. But those are separate issues.

Our first and most immediate responsibility is to give help to those who are suffering the ravages of the floods. North and South Dakotans, Minnesotans, northern Californians and Ohio River Valley residents want and deserve to rebuild their lives. They want and deserve to have peace of mind and a modicum of security. They need help to relocate their businesses, repair damaged roads and clear their farms in time for planting.

Yet the Republicans keep placing their political agenda ahead of the needs of these victims. Such game playing is untenable when lives and livelihood are at stake. I call on the majority to do the right thing and immediately remove objectionable extraneous provisions from the emergency supplemental appropriations bill. Send President Clinton an emergency supplemental appropriations bill he can sign. Send the flood victims the relief they so desperately need and deserve.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Michigan [Ms. STABENOW] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. STABENOW addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

PASS THE EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maine [Mr. ALLEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, a few moments ago I told my wife I was coming

to this Chamber to talk on the supplemental appropriations bill. And she said, why do they not just pass a clean supplemental bill? Why do they not do it? There are flood victims out there who are waiting for relief. Why do they not do it?

I think that those who have been following this issue over the last few weeks are asking the same question. Why do we not have a clean supplemental appropriations bill? Because clearly there are people in need.

The Republican leadership's failure to pass a clean supplemental appropriations bill has today prompted a Presidential veto. It is not surprising. The President made his position perfectly clear. That Presidential veto is denying our people at home the resources they need to rebuild their lives. Moreover, it is denying our troops in the field the resources they need to carry out their mission. The supplemental appropriations bill provides \$5.8 billion to individuals in 33 States hard-hit by disasters. It also provides \$1.8 billion to peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia and southwest Asia.

Eighty-three days ago, that is when the President asked this Congress for a disaster relief bill, 83 days ago. Since then the Republican leadership has been persistent in forging ahead with a relief bill that is so loaded down with extraneous and harmful positions that frankly that guaranteed the veto. I do not believe that many people around this country understand that position. Why are we loading up this bill?

I can guarantee you, I do not think a disaster relief bill, if it came to this House pure and clean, disaster relief only, it would pass without a single dissenting vote. The Members in this Chamber want disaster relief. Civic leaders from Grand Forks, ND, and East Grand Forks, MN, and from numerous other communities have cried out that disaster relief is critical and that every day a disaster bill is not enacted is one more day that Americans are denied the necessary resources to rebuild their communities.

I am also holding letters here from Secretary of Defense Cohen and the Chiefs of Staff of the Army and the Air Force which describe the effects on the military of the Republicans' failure to pass a clean bill. Training is curtailed. Maintenance is delayed. Rotations are canceled. Inventories are drained. Our soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen need a clean supplemental bill.

Mr. Speaker, there is a time for partisan politics and a time to set it aside. But when Americans are hit by a natural disaster, we must act together and act quickly. The American people and American troops need our support. We must do our job, and we must do it today. Let us pass a clean supplemental appropriations bill to support our troops in Bosnia and our people at home.

There are two provisions I want to mention quickly in that bill that ought to be stricken. One is a provision that

would prevent, permanently would prevent the U.S. Census Bureau from using statistical sampling in trying to determine how many people in the year 2000 live in this great country. Statistical sampling. Everyone in this Chamber knows what that means. Every one of us do polling. Every one of us knows that you cannot find out how many people live in a community by knocking on doors and counting. It is a very inefficient way to do it. You need something else, and statistical sampling is the way to go and do it.

The Department of Justice under the Carter administration, under the Bush administration, under the Clinton administration has made it clear that statistical sampling is constitutional and appropriate as a way of determining the size of the population.

Second, there is another provision in here that needs to go. That is a provision that sounds good on its face, which would prevent a Government shutdown, but in fact it removes the incentive for this Congress to pass a budget. We do not need another obstacle to passing a budget. We need to get down to business and do it.

Mr. Speaker, to delay any longer is irresponsible. Playing with other people's lives is wrong. I urge my colleagues to pass a clean disaster relief bill. Only a clean bill will provide the disaster relief necessary and the resources our troops need in Bosnia and southwest Asia in order to do their jobs. Eighty-three days ago the President asked us for disaster relief and we passed a bill that was guaranteed to draw a veto. It is time to get serious, time to pass a clean bill.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the following:

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF,
Washington, DC, June 3, 1997.
Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense
From: HQ USAF/CC, 1670 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20330-1670
Subject: FY97 DoD Contingency Supplemental

I understand that quick passage of the Supplemental may be in jeopardy. The purpose of this memorandum is to make you aware of the impacts of delayed passage (beyond June) on Air Force day-to-day operations.

The Air Force is currently cash flowing over \$700 million in support of Bosnia and SWA operations. We are doing so out of third and fourth quarter funding but are fast running out of flexibility and must soon take very dramatic action to avoid incurring an anti-deficiency in our O&M appropriation. On or about 1 July, Air Force commanders must begin taking the following kinds of actions:

Severely curtail or cease non-flying training—skill and proficiency levels reduced, e.g., weapons maintenance.

Severely curtail or cease flying training—squadrons and wings stand down—aircrew readiness degraded.

Cease all non-mission critical travel.

Defer further depot maintenance inductions—aircraft grounded.

Terminate benchstock fills—aircraft spares and consumables inventories drained.

Park non-mission critical vehicles.

Place moratoriums on all but safety related facility maintenance, including runway repair.

Impose civilian hiring freezes.

I know you are aware of the importance of this issue. We are well beyond the point where we can avoid serious disruption to Air Force operations if there is no supplemental. Timing is now critical.

RONALD R. FOGLEMAN,
General, USAF, Chief of Staff.

U.S. ARMY,
THE CHIEF OF STAFF,
Washington, DC, June 3, 1997.

Hon. WILLIAM S. COHEN,
Secretary of Defense, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I need your assistance in expediting the Bosnia Supplemental currently on the Hill. In early April, I advised Congress that in the absence of supplemental funding or the clear assurance that such funding would be forthcoming, I would be forced to begin actions in early May that would result in a degradation of readiness. I have not initiated the planned actions to deal with the lack of supplemental funding because the progress made had convinced me that supplemental funding would be forthcoming.

Recent developments indicate passage of the supplemental may be at risk. This puts the Army in the position of having to provide fourth quarter resource allocation to the field without having supplemental funding in hand. We have a fiscal responsibility to ensure that the allocation of fourth quarter resources is done within current limitations. There are several actions presently under consideration to cope with this situation. Each will have direct readiness and quality of life implications. Actions include the cancellation of Army participation in JCS exercises, Combat Training Center (CTR) rotations, home station training, weapons qualification training, and the deferral of some real property and depot maintenance. Some of these actions could carry over into the next fiscal year. For example, canceling home station training in the fourth quarter of this fiscal year could impact on CTC rotations in the first quarter of FY 1998.

We continue to monitor the supplemental very closely. As the situation develops, the Army will initiate any and all actions necessary to train and operate within the means available to us.

Very Respectfully,
DENNIS J. REINER,
General, U.S. Army, Chief of Staff.

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,
Washington, DC.

Hon. C. W. BILL YOUNG,
Chairman, Subcommittee on National Security, Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR BILL: I want to thank you for your action to date on the FY 1997 Bosnia/Southwest Asia Supplemental request, but I want to share with you my concern and that of the Service Chiefs about the impact on operations and training if the supplemental is not approved soon.

In my testimony and discussions with Congress, I have emphasized the need for early action on the supplemental. Based on its likely passage by Memorial Day, few actions were taken by the Department to offset supplemental costs. However, since our request was not approved last month, the Chiefs of Staff of the Army and the Air Force have renewed their concern over the possibility of delayed passage of the supplemental. I have enclosed copies of recent memoranda from them. To ensure that their overall operations are properly funded, the Chiefs have indicated that they cannot risk being left

with no options for funding Bosnia/Southwest Asia costs if the supplemental is delayed much longer.

I remain hopeful that quick action can be taken on the supplemental to preclude the disruptive impact to the Department's programs, especially those related to maintaining our readiness capability.

Sincerely,

BILL.

IMPORTANT ISSUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Vermont [Mr. SANDERS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, as the only Independent in the House, let me raise a few issues which I consider to be terribly important but which unfortunately do not get discussed all that much here in the House Chamber. For a start, I think maybe the most important issue as a country that we have to wrestle with is to what degree is the United States of America today a vital democracy.

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Sounds like an easy question. We have the right to vote. But, really, to what degree are our people involved in the political process? To what degree do people have faith and expectations of the political process?

Mr. Speaker, I would remind my colleagues that just 4 years ago, in 1994, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH] and his friends took over the House of Representatives. We had an election in which 38 percent of the people voted. Sixty-two percent of the American people did not vote. And in that election and, today, we continue to have, by far, the lowest voter turnout of any industrialized nation on Earth.

Why is that? And why do we not discuss this issue? Why is it that millions of low-income people no longer participate in the political process, no longer believe that this Congress deals with issues or makes decisions which are relevant to their lives? Why is it that young people, in leaps and bounds, no longer pay attention to what goes on politically and do not believe that the political process is relevant to their lives? We do not talk about that issue, and I think it is important that we do.

And I think the answer is twofold. First of all, I think there is a great deal of discontent with the two major political parties, and I think that millions of Americans think that both political parties end up representing the wealthy and the powerful.

Second of all, even deeper than that, I think there is a growing belief that real power does not lie within the political process; that it almost does not matter who gets elected, which party controls Congress or State legislatures, but real power rests elsewhere.

In my State of Vermont and throughout this country we see large corporations saying, well, we would like to pay less in taxes within our city or within

the State, and if the lawmakers do not give us a tax break, we are going to move to another State or, more likely, we will move out of the United States of America. And what does a mayor or a Governor do or a legislature do under that scenario?

It does not matter what party controls the legislature. Essentially, what people understand is that real power rests with the people who have the money. And if the people who have the money are not pleased, do not get the tax breaks that they want, they are going to move elsewhere. When that happens, people say, why should I vote, it does not make any difference. Politicians really do not have the power.

So I would argue that this country faces a major political crisis. During the 1960's the Beatles were talking about what happened if they started a war and nobody came, nobody fought in the war. My fear is that the day will come where we are going to have an election and people will not come out to vote.

In 1994, we had 38 percent of the people voting in the national congressional elections. Last year, when President Clinton was reelected, I believe we had about 49 percent of the people voting. My guess is the next national congressional elections, in 1998, we will have about 35 percent of the people voting, and the voter turnout will go down and down.

It is up to this institution, the U.S. Congress, to stand up and try to understand what is going on and figure out a way that we can reinvigorate democracy.

We talk a lot about education. Everybody agrees, conservatives and progressives, on the importance of education. But if we are not talking about education for democracy, the right of people to control their own future, what are we talking about?

The second issue I briefly want to touch on is the issue of the booming economy. Mr. Speaker, we cannot open a newspaper without hearing about how fantastic the economy is doing. Some of our Wall Street friends here say, my God, it has never been so good. We cannot imagine it getting any better.

Yet, when we look at the fine print which appears on page 68, somewhere beneath the sports section, we find that the real wages last year for the American worker was up 3.8 percent when inflation was about 3 percent. And if we know that the low-wage workers got a boost because of raising the minimum wage and the upper income workers generally do better, what we conclude is the average middle-class worker continues to see a decline, a drop in his or her real wages. The economy is booming, but the average American worker continues to get poorer. That has been going on for 20 years.

So I would suggest when we talk about a booming economy, let us look at the middle class and the working

class of this country. And then, my friends, the economy is not booming so much.

A CLEAN DISASTER RELIEF BILL IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOB SCHAFER of Colorado). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. LAMPSON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my dismay over the continued mishandling of the disaster relief bill by the Republican leadership.

I represent a district along the gulf coast, and perhaps in several months, after a devastating hurricane, I will find myself in the same position as my colleagues, the gentleman from North Dakota [Mr. POMEROY] and the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE]. I know that I would want disaster relief for my constituents in Galveston or Port Arthur or Texas City or Beaumont to be delivered as quickly as possible. Instead, my friends from the Dakotas have watched with what I can only imagine to be a combination of anger and disgust as certain factions within this body have played politics and political games with their aid.

I voted against adjourning for the Memorial Day recess so we could resolve this situation. I cannot imagine how my colleagues must have felt returning to sites of the flood devastation and trying to explain the holdup.

And yet, with great empathy for the flood victims, I felt that I had no choice but to vote against the disaster relief bill when it finally came to the floor.

The practice of attaching extraneous riders to disaster relief legislation may not be new, but as a freshman, it is the first time I had been forced and faced with such a dilemma. It is wrong. It should not be done.

Some of my colleagues have said it is the President playing politics. It is the House of Representatives playing politics and it is not right and should not be done.

I agree with Grand Forks, ND, Mayor Pat Owens, who said: "It is not fair to play with our people's lives and put amendments on to that bill."

The Governor of South Dakota, Bill Janklow, a Republican I might add, refused to put his name on a letter to the President asking him to sign the bill. A Fargo-Moorhead Forum editorial described Janklow's refusal as, "putting the interests of flood victims ahead of partisan considerations."

I appreciate that the people of this area understand why we have been forced to vote against supplying them the aid they need and deserve. A clean disaster aid bill for the victims of the flooding in the Midwest is weeks overdue. It is the right thing to do.

Today, after the President's veto, there is still no clean bill. Mr. Speaker, I must ask why. People's lives are in the balance.